

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 00750 180803Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01  
DHA-02 IO-13 /085 W  
-----180809 090922 /17

R 171503Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9831  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN  
AMCONSUL GOTEBOG BY POUCH

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 0750

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, CZ, SW  
SUBJECT: EDITORIAL REACTION TO CZECH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER'S  
VISIT TO STOCKHOLM

REF: STOCKHOLM 730  
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1. EDITORIAL TREATMENT FEBRUARY 16 OF CZECH DEPUTY  
FOREIGN MINISTER DUSAN SPACIL'S VISIT TO STOCKHOLM  
ALMOST UNIFORMLY FOCUSED ON CRITICIZING THE CZECH REGIME  
AND DEBUNKING SPACIL'S DEFENSE. SVENSKA DAGBLADET,  
CONSERVATIVE STOCKHOLM DAILY, REVIEWED SPACIL'S ARGUMENTS  
AND COMMENTED THAT "NOT EVEN IN SUCH A DEEPLY TRAGIC

SITUATION DID THIS HIGH OFFICIAL DISPLAY THE SLIGHTEST FEAR OF MAKING A FOOL OF HIMSELF." THE PAPER NOTED THAT THE BASIC POINT IS WHETHER CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS ABIDED BY THE HELSINKI AGREEMENTS, AND CONCLUDED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES' VIEWS ON THIS POINT ARE IRRECONCILABLE, DESPITE EFFORTS BY THE CZECH MASS MEDIA TO PORTRAY THE VISIT AS A SUCCESS.

2. INDEPENDENT-LIBERAL DAGENS NYHETER, AMONG OTHERS, TOOK A SIMILAR LINE, ATTACKING THE SPECIOUS ARGUMENT THAT THERE ARE NO POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. NOTING SPACIL'S OBJECTION TO INTERFERENCE IN CZECH INTERNAL AFFAIRS, DN REPLIED THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION CONTAINED IN THE HELSINKI DECLARATION APPLIES TO COERCION BUT NOT TO CRITICISM, AND THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SODER HAS EVERY RIGHT TO VOICE THE SWEDISH ATTITUDE.

3. TAKING QUITE A DIFFERENT APPROACH FROM THE MAINSTREAM, LIBERAL EXPRESSEN FOCUSED ON THE ADVISABILITY OF SWEDEN'S ACCEPTING SPACIL'S VISIT IN THE FIRST PLACE. IN AN EDITORIAL TITLED "SWEDEN HELPS THE PRAGUE REGIME," EXPRESSEN MAINTAINED THAT "LITTLE INNOCENT SWEDEN" HAS ALLOWED ITSELF TO BE USED IN PRAGUE'S PROPAGANDA WARFARE BY GIVING THE REGIME AN AIR OF RESPECTIBILITY WHEN OTHER COUNTRIES, SUCH AS NORWAY, ARE REJECTING CZECH VISITS. NOTING THAT PRAGUE RADIO HAS REPEATEDLY ANNOUNCED THAT SPACIL'S "WARM WELCOME IN STOCKHOLM PROVES THAT THE CIRCLES AROUND CHARTER 77 HAVE NOT MANAGED TO DISTURB GOOD UNCLASSIFIED

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RELATIONS WITH SWEDEN," THE PAPER CONCLUDED THAT IN THIS CASE SWEDEN SHOULD HAVE MAINTAINED A "NO CONTACT" POLICY, SHOWING "A LITTLE BIT MORE COURAGE AND A LITTLE LESS ETIQUETTE."  
SMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, CZ, SW, (SPACIL, DUSAN)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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